

DESCRIPTION

The Aptos Creek watershed, including Valencia Creek, is located in Santa Cruz County approximately 8.5 miles south of the City of Santa Cruz and encompasses approximately 24.5 square miles. Approximately sixty percent of the watershed (main stem of Aptos Creek) is within the Forest of Nisene Marks State Park. The remaining 40% of the watershed is primarily privately owned and includes timber harvesting and rural residential development, with the exception of Aptos Village Park (owned by the County of Santa Cruz) and the State Beach (Aptos Creek

Sedimentation resulting from these activities is affecting fish habitat and other beneficial uses in the streams and is addressed within Aptos Creek Watershed Assessment and Enhancement Plan, 2003.



Aptos Creek

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For more photos, visit:
www.californiacoastline.org.

REASON FOR CCA IDENTIFICATION

The Aptos Creek is a 2002 303(d)-listed **impaired waterbody that flows into a Marine Protected Area** (Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary).

POLLUTED RUNOFF CONDITIONS

	Top 5 Runoff Pollutants of Concern					Efforts to Address Pollutants (See next page)
	<u>2002 303(d)-Listed Pollutants</u> TMDL Priority (& Proposed Completion if available)		<u>Other Pollutants of Concern</u>			
Selected Coastal Zone Waterbodies	<u>Pathogens</u>	<u>Sediment</u>	?	?	?	
Aptos Creek ▲	▲ Medium	▲ Low				
Valencia Creek ■	■ Medium	■ Low				
Potential Sources of Pollutants in Coastal Waterbodies						
Agriculture	■	■				e
Forestry (Silviculture)						
Urban Areas						a, b, c
➤ Urban Runoff/ Storm Sewers	▲					a, b, c
➤ Septic Systems	■					
➤ Disturbed Sites (Land Development)		▲				
➤ Construction/ Land Development		■				d
Marinas & Boating						
Hydromodification						
Wetlands & Riparian Areas						a, e, f
Channel Erosion		▲				

Aptos Creek CCA

MAJOR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NPS MANAGEMENT MEASURES

a)	Aptos Creek Watershed Assessment and Enhancement Plan			http://www.coastal-watershed.org/
Coastal Watershed Council		Tamara Doan	(831) 464-9200	tcdoan@coastalws.org
➤ Aptos Creek Watershed Assessment and Enhancement Plan, 2003 is intended to evaluate factors potentially harmful to salmonid populations within Aptos Creek and develop restoration recommendations.				
b)	Clean Streams 2004 Monitoring Program			http://www.coastal-watershed.org/
Coastal Watershed Council		Tamara Doan	(831) 464-9200	tcdoan@coastalws.org
➤ Monitoring Program for Aptos Creek: volunteer outreach methods includes flyers and posters, community outreach notices, attending other community organization meetings, press releases and public service announcements.				
c)	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network			http://www.mbnms.nos.noaa.gov/monitoringnetwork/welcome.html
NOAA, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary		Bridget Hoover	(831) 883-9303	info@monitoringnetwork.org bhoover@monitoringnetwork.org
➤ Consortium of approximately twenty citizen monitoring groups that monitor the health of the watersheds flowing into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.				
d)	Cost-Share Implementation of Erosion and Sediment Control BMPs for Non-County Roads in the San Lorenzo, Soquel, and Aptos/Valencia Creek Watersheds			www.sccrcd.org
Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District		Karen Christensen	(831) 464-2950	ed@sccrcd.org
➤ Addresses sediment inputs from roads, though road drainage improvement best management practices, public outreach and education through technical trainings, an educational workshop/tour, and an informational newsletter.				
e)	Integrated Watershed Restoration Program (IWRP) for Santa Cruz County			www.iwrp.sccrcd.org
Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District, Calif. Coastal Conservancy, and multiple local, federal, and state partners		Karen Christensen, and Kate Goodnight	(831) 464-2950 (831) 429-1776	ed@sccrcd.org kgoodnight@scc.ca.gov
➤ Funding for designs and permits for 50-70 watershed restoration and water quality projects in seven watersheds, including Aptos Creek; focus on fish passage improvement, sediment reduction, and wetland enhancement.				
f)	Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program for Santa Cruz County			www.sccrcd.org
Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District, and, Sustainable Conservation		Karen Christensen	(831) 464-2950	ed@sccrcd.org
➤ Development of first countywide permit coordination program modeled after successful effort in Elkhorn Slough. Regulator agencies agreed to issue “master permits” to the RCD/NRCS to cover suite of restoration practices.				

Aptos Creek CCA

REGULATORY/PLANNING JURISDICTIONS

➤ Santa Cruz County, Water Quality Programs	http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/	John Ricker	(831) 454-2750	john.ricker@co.santa-cruz.ca.us
➤ Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District	http://www.carc.org/wisp/santacruz/index.htm	Karen Christensen	(831) 464-2950	sccred@cruzio.com
➤ Calif. Coastal Commission, Water Quality Unit	http://www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/npsndx.html	Ross Clark	(831) 427-4873	rclark@coastal.ca.gov
➤ Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/	Bill Arkfeld	(805) 542-4627	barkfeld@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ California Coastal Conservancy	http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/	Terri Nevins	(510) 286-4161	tnevins@scc.ca.gov
➤ State Water Resources Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/	Steve Fagundes	(916) 341-5487	sfagundes@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, Marine Region	http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/	Kevin Urquhart	(831) 649-2882	kurquhart@dfg.ca.gov
➤ Calif. State Parks, Santa Cruz District	http://www.santacruzstateparks.org/index.php	George Gray	(831) 335-6383	ggray@parks.ca.gov
➤ NOAA, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	http://www.mbnms.noaa.gov/	Chris Coburn	(831) 420-1670	Chris.Coburn@noaa.gov